

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-8, 11, 26, 45, 46, 52, 53, 59, and 60 as indicated below. Please also cancel claim 39 without prejudice or disclaimer. Deletions appear in ~~striketrough font~~, and additions are underlined. The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Complete listing of claims

1. (Currently amended) A method of producing synthetic resin film for laminates, said synthetic resin film comprising a substrate impregnated with a thermosetting resin, said method comprising
 - (a) impregnating the substrate with a first thermosetting resin composition comprising a first uncured thermosetting resin and a low profile additive,
 - (b) drying the impregnated substrate of (a),
 - (c) impregnating or coating the substrate of (b) with a second thermosetting resin composition comprising a second uncured thermosetting resin and a low profile additive, and
 - (d) drying the impregnated or coated substrate of (c);wherein the low profile additive is inert, substantially spherical and has a particle size in the range of about 5 to about 60 microns.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 39~~1~~, further comprising at least partially curing the first uncured thermosetting resin in the impregnated substrate.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 391, wherein said low profile additive comprises ceramic microspheres.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 391, wherein said low profile additive comprises thermoplastic polymer powder.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 391, wherein said low profile additive comprises polyethylene powder.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 391, wherein said first and second uncured thermosetting resin are each selected from the group consisting of melamine-formaldehyde, urea-formaldehyde, phenol-formaldehyde and mixtures thereof.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 391, wherein the substrate is paper.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 391, wherein the low profile additive is present in amounts sufficient to provide said synthetic resin film with a scratch resistance of about 2.5 Newtons or higher; and wherein the scratch resistance of the synthetic resin film is higher than the scratch resistance of a film that lacks the low profile additive but is otherwise identical to said synthetic resin film.

9. (Original) Synthetic resin film for laminates produced by the method according to claim 1.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising at least partially curing the second uncured thermosetting resin in the impregnated or coated substrate.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first uncured thermosetting resin and said second uncured thermosetting resin are the same.

13-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first uncured thermosetting resin and said second uncured thermosetting resin are independently selected from the group consisting of melamine-formaldehyde, urea-formaldehyde, phenol formaldehyde and mixtures thereof.

17-25. (Cancelled).

26. (Currently amended) Synthetic resin film for laminates comprising a substrate impregnated with an at least partially cured thermosetting resin and uncoated

ceramic microspheres, wherein the uncoated ceramic microspheres are present in amounts sufficient to provide said synthetic resin film with a scratch resistance of about 2.5 Newtons or higher; and wherein the scratch resistance of the synthetic resin film is higher than the scratch resistance of a film that lacks the uncoated ceramic microspheres but is otherwise identical to said synthetic resin film.

27. (Previously presented) A process of producing laminate, said process comprising assembling a plurality of layers of synthetic resin film at least one of said layers being the synthetic resin film of claim 9, and subjecting said assembly to heat and pressure sufficient to effect consolidation of said layers to produce a laminate.

28. (Previously presented) The process of claim 27, wherein the heat necessary to effect consolidation is 230 to 340 degrees F and the pressure necessary to effect consolidation is 800 to 1600 psi.

29. (Previously presented) The laminate produced by the process of claim 27.

30-32. (Cancelled).

33. (Previously presented) A laminate comprising a synthetic resin film of claim 9 laminated to a base material.

34. (Previously presented) The laminate of claim 33, wherein said base material comprises wood.

35. (Previously presented) The laminate of claim 33, wherein said base material is selected from the group consisting of particle board, medium density fiber board and composite panel.

36 - 44. (Cancelled).

45. (Currently amended) A method of producing synthetic resin film for laminates, said synthetic resin film comprising a substrate impregnated with a thermosetting resin, said method comprising

(a) impregnating the substrate with a thermosetting resin composition comprising an uncured thermosetting resin and uncoated ceramic microspheres; and

(b) drying the impregnated substrate of (a),

wherein the uncoated ceramic microspheres are present in amounts sufficient to provide said synthetic resin film with a scratch resistance of about 2.5 Newtons or higher; and wherein the scratch resistance of the synthetic resin film is higher than the scratch resistance of a film that lacks the uncoated ceramic microspheres but is otherwise identical to said synthetic resin film.

46. (Currently amended) The method of claim 45, further comprising

- (c) impregnating or coating the substrate of (b) with a second thermosetting resin composition comprising a second uncured thermosetting resin and a low profile additive, and
- (d) drying the impregnated or coated substrate of (c).

47. (Cancelled).

48. (Previously presented) A method of producing synthetic resin film for laminates, said synthetic resin film comprising a substrate impregnated with a thermosetting resin, said method comprising

- (a) impregnating the substrate with a thermosetting resin composition comprising an uncured thermosetting resin and uncoated ceramic microspheres; and
- (b) drying the impregnated substrate of (a), the uncoated ceramic microspheres comprising about 0.5 to about 4.75% (wt) of the thermosetting resin after drying the impregnated substrate.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising at least partially curing the uncured thermosetting resin in the impregnated substrate.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein said uncured thermosetting resin is selected from the group consisting of melamine-formaldehyde, urea-formaldehyde, phenol-formaldehyde and mixtures thereof.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the substrate is paper.

52. (Currently amended) The method of claim 48, wherein the uncoated ceramic microspheres are present in amounts sufficient to provide said synthetic resin film with a scratch resistance of about 2.5 Newtons or higher; and wherein the scratch resistance of the synthetic resin film is higher than the scratch resistance of a film that lacks the uncoated ceramic microspheres but is otherwise identical to said synthetic resin film.

53. (Currently amended) The method of claim 48, further comprising
(c) impregnating or coating the substrate of (b) with a second thermosetting resin composition comprising a second uncured thermosetting resin and a low profile additive, and
(d) drying the impregnated or coated substrate of (c).

54. (Previously presented) Synthetic resin film for laminates produced by the method according to claim 48.

55. (Previously presented) A method of producing synthetic resin film for laminates, said synthetic resin film comprising a substrate impregnated with a thermosetting resin, said method comprising

(a) impregnating the substrate with a thermosetting resin composition comprising an uncured thermosetting resin and uncoated ceramic microspheres; and

(b) drying the impregnated substrate of (a).

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 55, further comprising at least partially curing the uncured thermosetting resin in the impregnated substrate.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein said uncured thermosetting resin is selected from the group consisting of melamine-formaldehyde, urea-formaldehyde, phenol-formaldehyde and mixtures thereof.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the substrate is paper.

59. (Currently amended) The method of claim 55, wherein the uncoated ceramic microspheres are present in amounts sufficient to provide said synthetic resin film with a scratch resistance of about 2.5 Newtons or higher; and wherein the scratch resistance of the synthetic resin film is higher than the scratch resistance of a film that lacks the uncoated ceramic microspheres but is otherwise identical to said synthetic resin film.

60. (Currently amended) The method of claim 55, further comprising

- (c) impregnating or coating the substrate of (b) with a second thermosetting resin composition comprising a second uncured thermosetting resin and a low profile additive, and
- (d) drying the impregnated or coated substrate of (c).

61. (Previously presented) Synthetic resin film for laminates produced by the method according to claim 55.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 55 wherein the ceramic microspheres are alkali alumino silicate ceramic microspheres.